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Soviet Constitution

To the Editor:

I shall be greatly obliged if you will send me to answer once more and finally to Lucifer's latest outburst in your yesterday's issue. It is not Lucifer's reply to my letter, but the principal question of this controversy which is calling for an answer. This principal question is the significance of the new Constitution of the U.S.S.R., the very acknowledgment of which brought you Lucifer's charge of being fond of "juridical cretinism".

Indeed, Lucifer's point was very clearly made in his both letters. It is the same point which is since years the only content of all declarations of Trotsky and his followers, the point by which all their writings are very clearly recognized. This "point" is outwardly marked by the hatred towards Stalin, but in fact it is their bitter hostility against all present essential characteristics of the U.S.S.R. and of everything it stands for in the world.

The creation of the Socialist economy of the U.S.S.R., the rapid industrialization of this country, the collectivization and mechanization of its agriculture and the abolition of classes which made possible the achievement of the new Constitution, all these basic realities of the U.S.S.R. are inextricably connected with the name of Stalin. These Soviet realities are organically embodied in the new Constitution. Moreover, the foreign policy of the Soviet Government for national defense, for peace, for collective security against aggressors, for international collaboration within the League of Nations and with all Powers and peoples striving for peace, all these too, realities of the present Soviet life are again historically connected with the present leadership of the U.S.S.R. The position of Stalin in this leadership is one of responsible personification of a great collective achievement by a country and people who fought its way through by Revolution and proletarian dictatorship. Stalin was both the theoretical teacher and practical leader of this whole policy embodied now in the mighty position of the U.S.S.R. as the only Socialist country in the world as well as in its new Constitution. But to Lucifer's type this whole edifice is a "monstrous Bonapartist dictatorship", which in his view is "as desirable to remove as it is to free Germany and Italy of the regimes of Hitler and Mussolini". It is he calls then to be "an attitude of friendly criticism of the Soviet Union"! May I add here that, in fact, as it is shown by all activities of Trotsky and his followers, there is no more urgent task to them in the present world as the removal of the "monstrous Bonapartist dictatorship" in the U.S.S.R. As there are other very serious forces at present menacing the U.S.S.R. by aggressive policies and preparation for international war one can easily find out the real position of Lucifer's type in regard to the "monstrous Bonapartist dictatorship" on the one side and to the Fascist war forces against it, on the other. The co-operation of some of them with the Nazi Gestapo would really mean the least crime or service in that connection.

As Lucifer is such a keen discoverer of "realities", I will allow myself to point out here some other realities embodied in his attitude. If one wants to remove the "monstrous Bonapartist dictatorship" in the U.S.S.R., he must, of course, use all adequate means to achieve that end. There were some of his type outside and within the U.S.S.R. who lost all hopes of getting mass support for the removal of "Stalin" and his all-powerful bureaucracy" tempted to achieve this goal by assassination. They maintained among their fellow-conspirators that heads once fallen never grow up again. The start on this way, as shown by the murder of Kiroff and attempts to kill Stalin and others, brought the result that they were dealt with like dogs gone mad. If there are still some who lost all senses and will try to continue on that way, then they will receive the same reply of the "monsters". What other means are left to them for removal of the "monstrous Bonapartist dictatorship"? Some are hoping for foreign intervention and war difficulties within the U.S.S.R. in that connection. The present forces of foreign intervention against the U.S.S.R. are well known, as we have already an alliance between Germany and Japan against the Communist International, by which these aggressive Powers mean nobody else as the U.S.S.R. Of course, Lucifer's type will not admit this and deny everything. Theirs is the mission at present to enlighten the toilers of the world and all sympathizers of the U.S.S.R. on the subjects of the "monstrous Bonapartist dictatorship", the removal of which is one of the most urgent tasks. They are busy in denouncing "Stalin's alliance with the French bourgeoisie", "Stalin's betrayal of the Spanish revolution", "Stalin's selling out to Chiang Kai-shek", etc. To them is Stalin the "monstrous" mischief-maker everywhere, not only in the U.S.S.R., but in Spain, France, China, etc. He is also responsible for Germany and Italy. Their theory of "Stalinism" as an international demoniac force is just as convincing as Hitler's theory on the international influence of the "Moscow Jews". In fact, both theories are completing each other, and on their part both working for the

same end: the hatred towards the U.S.S.R. and its Government, and the preparation of the imperialist, interventionist war against that country. Such are the realities at a time when the forces of aggression and Fascism on the one side and the forces of peace and national defence, of democracy and progress on the other are both involved in a life and death struggle.

It is not true that the Soviet Government is suppressing friendly criticism of its policies or complains against bureaucratic evils, etc. In fact, it encourages such kind of criticism, as this is also shown by the content of its press. One of the reasons for the creation of the new Constitution is the removal of all privileges of the certain classes in favour of the whole people without distinction of classes, nationalities, sexes, races and religious creeds. Moreover, the secrecy of the elections and the direct control of all constitutional representatives and authorities by the electorate shall be assured.

To Lucifer all these provisions are only "abstract paragraphs", which "do not interest him". He is interested instead in the removal of the "monstrous Bonapartist dictatorship". But in this regard, he may be assured, nothing will change, as neither the new Constitution nor the trends of the social, economic and political development of the U.S.S.R. make any allowances for the overthrow of its Socialist structure, or of the dictatorship of the toilers as long as the whole society did not yet reach the goal of being one working humanity. Founded on Socialism and broad people's democracy the U.S.S.R. will assure by the new Constitution to every citizen not hostile to the existence of that country complete freedom, as it will develop to perfection its Government by the people and for the people. As to the international relations of that country the policy will hold true as represented in Stalin's statement, that neither the Revolution nor Socialism can be exported as such problems and tasks must be decided by the nations and peoples themselves,—in spite of all cries of the Trotskyists about another "Stalin's betrayal"!

Thanking you, I remain,
Yours very truly
ANTL-FASCIST
Shanghai, January 15, 1937.

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The Readers' Forum

Soviet Bonapartism

To The Editor:

Your correspondent, "Anti-Fascist," entirely ignored the point which was very clearly made in my previous letter. I expressed no hostility toward the new Soviet Constitution nor did I criticize any of the provisions of that document. Its abstract paragraphs do not especially interest me, but rather the realities which, I contend, those paragraphs are largely intended to conceal.

The Constitution of the United States is a document quite as imposing (if not as novel in all of its features) as Stalin's constitution. A specific amendment to that Constitution, for example, gives to the Negro the right to vote. But let any Negro in the southern states try to exercise the right!

Which brings me right to the point which I thought I had previously made, namely, that between the golden promises of the Stalin constitution and the actual social relationships in the Soviet Union there is a yawning chasm as awe-inspiring as the Grand Canyon. Everyone with any knowledge of the situation in the Soviet Union is well aware that democratic liberties are non-existent. No amount of dishonest propagandist eye-wash obliterate the independent testimony of dozens of observers, many of whom have lived in the Soviet Union for many years, buttressed by evidence furnished by the Soviet press itself.

Persons suspected of opposition to Stalin's regime or any vital phase of it are arbitrarily arrested, sent into exile, jailed, or paraded before a firing squad. Their relatives and friends are subjected to vicious persecution and reprisals. The more prominent oppositionists are sometimes accorded the "privilege" of a mock trial, but nameless thousands just disappear without being put through any such formality. There are more persons rotting in Russian prisons, hard labor camps and other places of exile than there were at any time during the Tsarist regime.

Is "Anti-Fascist" so to believe that these rotten features of Stalinist rule will disappear like a puff smoke when the new Constitution becomes law?

Freedom of speech, press and assembly are a fiction in the Soviet Union. Such liberties exist, only for those who do not venture a breath of criticism against Stalin and his all-powerful bureaucracy. The new parliamentarism, secret ballot and all, will be just another democratic fiction, on a par with the plebiscitary practice which the population of Germany is permitted to indulge in every so often. Soviet citizens will have the privilege of saying "aye" or "no" to the Stalinist "line" (and the Lord help anyone who is discovered to have said "no"). Also, they will exercise the privilege of voting for candidates selected by the Stalinist apparatus.

This, "Anti-Fascist" would have us believe, is "historical progress!"

He may label me a "fascist" or "supporter of fascism" if he pleases. But let me remind him that opponents of fascism are not found exclusively in the ranks of the Stalinists and their dubious friends and allies. These gentlemen do, indeed, claim a monopoly of all genuine anti-fascist sentiment and action, but critical minds no longer take their ridiculous pretensions seriously.

There is also a difference, let me point out, between an attitude of friendly criticism of the Soviet Union and one of hostility. Likewise there is a profound difference between Stalinism and Communism. In Stalinist eyes, of course, anyone who utters any criticism of deeds done today on the former territory of the Tsars, is automatically an "enemy of the Soviet Union" and a fascist. An opponent of Stalinism is by the same reasoning, an opponent of Communism.

So be it! Let "Anti-Fascist" hurl what to him is the worst abuse. I remain an opponent of Stalinism. In my view it is as desirable to remove the monstrous Bonapartist dictatorship which it represents as it is to free Germany and Italy of the regimes of Hitler and Mussolini.

"LUCIFER"

Shanghai, January 12, 1936.

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U.S.S.R. Ambassador Gives Talk On New Constitution

Interesting Address Before Pan-Pacific Body; Tells Of Industrial Changes, Strengthening Of Democracy And Status Of Women Told

A very interesting and instructive address on the new Constitution of the U.S.S.R. bearing special stress on the industrial development and changes in the country, the strengthening of democracy and the place and rights of women, was given by the Soviet Ambassador, Mr. D. V. Bogomoloff, before a large and appreciative gathering of members of the China Institute of Pacific Relations, the Pan-Pacific Association and the Soviet-Chinese Association of Cultural Relations at the Park Hotel yesterday.

In a few well-chosen words, Mr. P. W. Kuo, President of the Pan-Pacific Association, introduced the speaker. In referring to the talk to be given by the Ambassador, he said that the address would not only be academic, but vitally practical, in view of the problems of constitution now confronting the United States and Japan. Mr. Kuo closed by saying that he was certain that a great number of people were anxious to hear facts regarding the new Constitution of the U.S.S.R. from the best authority on the question at present in China.

In opening his address Mr. Bogomoloff stated that he had chosen as his subject the new Constitution of the U.S.S.R., as in his many years of service in different diplomatic capacities abroad he had seen that there was still a great deal of misunderstanding about the great economical, political

and social changes taking place in Soviet Russia. He went on to say that many years ago, when the Soviet Government was first established, the lack of knowledge could be explained, genuine information being barred from the outside world by war fronts, but at present the misunderstanding could only be attributed to prejudice. "There is still too much prejudice in many capitalist countries towards the Soviet Union," the speaker explained, "and if they hear that the Soviet Government has published data on the growth of the industrial power of the country, they say it is only government propaganda."

Industrial Changes

Speaking on the industrial changes, Ambassador Bogomoloff stated that the agricultural production in U.S.S.R. had risen one and a half times in comparison with pre-war times, and the industrial production was seven times larger than in 1913. The national income in 1936 was four times that in 1913. At the beginning of this year many branches of industry had already fulfilled their programmes for the Second Five-Year Plan.

In many branches of industry the Soviet Union had taken an important place among the producing powers of the world. In machine-building the U.S.S.R. was second in the world; it led in the building of tractors and combines; was third in production of electric power and fourth in the production of coal. It was second in oil production, while in the production of wheat and sugar-beets it led the world. The quantity of cargoes transported on Soviet railways during 1936, was second only to the United States. In the production of gold the Soviets had taken second place after South Africa.

The increase in the productive capacity of the country was not only attributed to the increased number of workers, but also in the increase of the productive capacity of the workers. Apart from the development of the industries, there had been a colossal growth of the so-called "socialist sector" under which now almost 98 per cent of the whole agricultural production came from the socialist sector and not from the individual peasants.

Stalin's Constitution

The speaker referred to the new Constitution as Stalin's Constitution, as the leader of the Soviet Party and Government had the Constitution drafted according to his advice and instructions. The basic principles of socialism embodied in the New Constitution was: "From each according to his ability, to each according to his work performed." Under this every citizen had the right to demand from the Government payment according to the results of his labour. This had been criticized as a departure from communist principles. The need for everyone to increase his productive powers had been mentioned as the solution.

Dictatorship

The speaker pointed out that dictatorship of the proletariat remained, but that the working classes of the Soviet Union could not be called "proletariat" and secondly the word "dictatorship" there meant that the guidance of the society by the State was in the hands of a certain class. In the Soviet Union it was in the hands of the working class. At present when nearly all the national economy, including agriculture, was based on socialist lines, the centre of gravity of dictatorship consisted mainly in leading the peasantry towards higher stages of socialist order.

This does not mean that the power of the State weakens," continued the speaker, and he went on to dwell on the fact that the Soviets were obliged to strengthen their military power and be ready for an emergency. He referred to the two recent Trotskyist trials, stating that they were supported by foreign powers.

Strengthening Of Democracy

The best proof of how the democratic spirit had impregnated the masses of the Soviet Union was the fact that the draft of the new Constitution before it was presented to the Eighth Extraordinary Congress of Soviets, was discussed for four months by the whole nation and amendments were sent from all over the country. The women in the Soviet Union had equal rights with the men to vote.

Full protection rights were enjoyed by citizens of the U.S.S.R. as well as health insurance, and the women were given four months off with full pay in the event of the birth of a child. According to the Constitution, the usual rights and liberties, like freedom of speech, press and meetings and personal inviolability of dwelling were given.

One of the articles of the Constitution provided for equality of the rights of citizens irrespective of their nationality or race, in all spheres of economic, state, cultural, social and political life. This was important in view of 60 nations, national groups comprising the Union.

Women In Constitution

Women played a very important role in the New Constitution, enjoying all the privileges, many of them being electors at the Congress. The speaker mentioned that in the Soviet Union the women were looked upon as 50 per cent of the population and treated as such, being given equal rights. He also touched on the question of abortions, stating that these were made illegal; however, contraceptive measures were not prohibited.



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'Red Democracy'

NEW CONSTITUTION MAY LIBERALIZE RUSSIA

Under new Soviet constitution, with its liberal "bill of rights," Russia launches late this year another stirring experiment. What the constitution says has been published. But what does it mean? Where is Russia going? John Lloyd of The Associated Press, foreign service, tells you in a series of five stories, of which this is the first.

By JOHN LLOYD

MOSCOW.—Described by Bolsheviks as a gift to the world, Russia's new constitution, to be adopted late this year, will serve as a foundation for "Red democracy."

But while the form of government it prescribes will have many points of similarity with democratic government in other countries, there also will be striking difference. The key to the situation, observers agree, will lie in the amount of power vested in the Communist party. Few believe the party will cease to be the guiding force.

FIRST OF A SERIES

Secret Balloting

The Kremlin predicts the innovation will surpass all other political or social system and, it is generally recognized, the constitution represents progress. But among the observers are sceptics who want to see it in operation before forming definite conclusions.

On paper the constitution grants the people numerous privileges. Primarily it provides for equal suffrage, eliminating discriminations against the clergy, the former nobility and others. It also permits them to stand for election.

With the old system of voting by show of hands discarded in favour of direct, secret balloting, men and women over 18 will be entitled to vote regardless of religious convictions, past activities or social status.

Democratic Similarities

The governmental machinery will be similar to democratic government in other countries in that:

It will have two legislative chambers.

It will have a cabinet. Its head will occupy a post equivalent to a presidency.

Election will be, partly at least, by secret balloting.

But it will be unlike, say, the American system, because:

The "president" will have no power of veto.

He will be chosen by the chambers, rather than by the people directly.

He will share his authority with 36 members of the presidium of the supreme council.

The cabinet or Council of



THIS WILL GO
The old system of voting by show of hands is to be abolished under Russia's constitution in favour of a secret ballot.

People's Commissars will be selected by the chambers.

Only one of the chambers will be elected directly, the other to be filled with appointees from associated republics and provinces.

Elections Next Year

After the constitution has been promulgated by the All-Union Congress of Soviets in November, a date, probably early in 1937, will be set for the first general elections. The Congress and the All-Union Executive Committee will cease to exist and will be replaced by the Supreme Council, to be made up of the two chambers called the Council of the Union and the Council of Nationalities.

The Council of the Union will consist of 567 elected members, or one for every 300,000 population. Governing bodies of the associated republics and workers' soviets of the autonomous provinces will appoint a total of 238 deputies to the Council of Nationalities.

These Councils, meeting in Moscow as the Supreme Council, will elect the cabinet or Council of

Commissars and choose the Supreme Council presidium with its chairman. His position will be equivalent to that of president. The presidium will govern between sessions of the chambers.

Other Freedoms

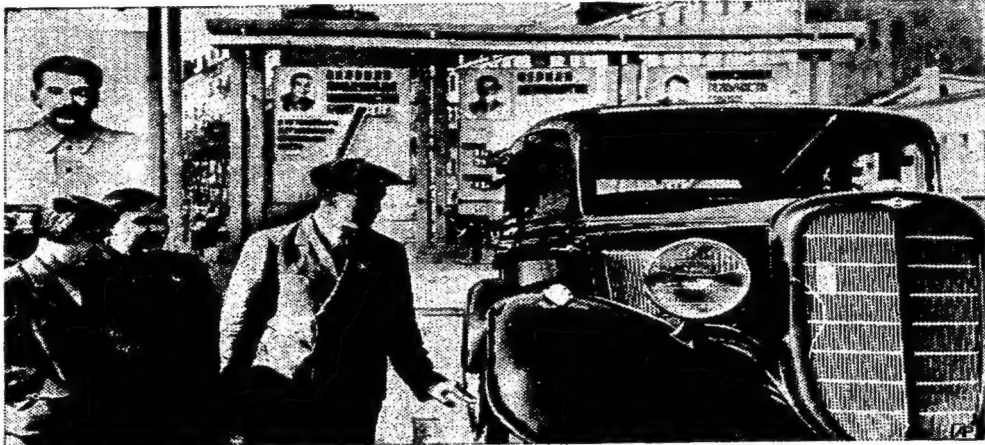
Although it appears the Communist party will continue to enjoy exclusive rights of existence, trade unions, co-operatives and a few other groups will be permitted to put forth candidates. Some see in this a basis for rivalry.

Other guarantees contained in the new charter are for freedom of speech, public assembly and the press, and freedom of religious practice. This is not taken to mean that attacks on the Soviet system will be permitted.

Fifteen million copies of the constitution are being distributed so that farmers, workers, soldiers, house-wives and even schoolboys can study it and offer suggestions.

It is promised these suggestions will be taken into consideration before the charter is finally approved.—A.P.

'Red Democracy'



Russians May Soon Own Homes But Must Wait For Cars

By JOHN LLOYD

MOSCOW. — Soviet Union citizens may own their own homes when their new constitution goes into effect, since provision for protection of private property is one of its most important features.

Only the "essential" part of housing in cities and industrial centres is still listed as irrevocable property of the state. Personal ownership of homes and objects of domestic use is to be protected, by law.

People cannot buy autos for awhile as they are not yet on public sale, but they can purchase radios, silk dresses, electrical kitchen gadgets, fur coats and such things. The big investment—home-building—is to be promoted on a large scale.

Citizens who have money may "buy into" co-operative apartment houses on a cash basis or by the instalment plan.

O.K.'s Building

To really understand the importance of these commitments it is necessary to go back to the time when private property was nationalized, that is, taken over by the state.

True, private ownership of some

small houses was still permitted and later private building of small individual home was encouraged. But always there was the question, "Am I safe in the ownership of this property, or is it too, sooner or later, to be taken over?"

The new constitution answers the question. In effect, it says, "Go ahead with your building. Your home will remain yours."

Not All 'Poor'

Immediately after publication of this promise an official announcement was made that increased government aid would be granted to the Soviet Housing Corporation, which finances erection of co-operative apartment buildings.

Vice-Premier Vlas Chubar added a prediction that there would be at once a large increase in home-building.

The citizens, it must be explained, are not all "poor," or more precisely, not all limited to incomes of only two or 300 roubles a month. There is, just as in any other country, a "middle" strata, not to use the hated word class, which earns double or triple that amount.

Then there is, speaking in "capitalistic" terms, the "wealthier" class, including many of

FOR INSPECTION ONLY

Many are the privileges promised Russians in their new constitution, but until cars go on public sale they'll have to be content merely to stand and admire them.

the actors and writers, whose incomes go well into the thousands per month.

Extends To Farmers

As a result there are "savers." According to official figures savings accounts in the Soviet Union contain a total of 2,960,000,330 roubles and over 400,000 workers have accounts of over 500 roubles, many of course mounting far above that.

The "essential" part of housing which is to remain the property of the state is not further defined in the constitution. It is expected, however, to include practically all of the buildings already administered by the government.

Provisions for protection of private property extend to the country as well as the cities. Members of collective farms are permitted to have their own homes and their own small plots of ground, with enough domestic animals and farming implements to maintain a family.

Private ownership and operation of industry will be permitted only in cases of co-operatives or small enterprises where the owner does all the work. Employment by private owners is termed exploitation of labour and is prohibited by law.—A.P.

'Red Democracy'

SOVIET PROMISES EQUALITY TO CLERGY

By JOHN LLOYD

MOSCOW. — Almost overnight the clergyman in Soviet Russia has found himself emerging upon a plane of political equality with other citizens.

The new constitution grants him rights to vote and to stand for election to public office. Even the Society of Militant Godless has come out in support of these rights.

THIRD OF A SERIES

Approximately 100,000 persons are affected.

There are that many members of the clergy still active in the Soviet Union.

"Equality of rights of the citizens of the U.S.S.R.," says the constitution, "is an irrevocable law. This is irrespective of their nationality or race and regardless of the economic, state, cultural, social or political life they may lead."

Only Small Voice

But the right to vote and be elected does not mean, necessarily, that the clergy is going to have a very great voice in public affairs. Its force numerically is but a drop in the bucket and it has the all-powerful communist party against it.

The government itself does not enter into the church dispute. Its duty, constitutionally, will be to see that freedom of religion is preserved.

Being officially apart from the government, the party can take its own stand on the question. It is notoriously anti-church. And here is what Emilian Yaroslavsky, head of the powerful Society of Godless, has to say:

Party 'Would Fight'

"It is very difficult to believe that there is a clergyman in the Soviet Union who would be elected to public office.

"Suppose a clergyman were to become a candidate to the supreme council. We would have the right to fight against him and we could use his candidacy as a pretext to explain the harm of religion and religious superstitions."

Yaroslavsky admitted that there are still millions of religious peo-



THEY'LL FIGHT THE CLERGY

Russian clergymen face a tussle with the powerful Society of Godless if they attempt to take advantage of the right the new constitution gives them to stand for election. Two members pore over society's newspaper, whose cover caricatures a clergyman.

ple in Russia. He referred to them as "the backward part of the peasantry, what is left of the small bourgeoisie and the remaining fragments of the parasitic former ruling class."

Hits U.S. On Religion

Freedom of religion in America, he maintained, does not actually exist. He referred particularly to bans on teaching of the theory of evolution.

Along with freedom of religion the new constitution grants Soviet citizens "freedom of speech, the press and public assembly and street demonstration."

The official press says the freedom granted in these fields will exceed that obtaining even in America.

Observers Skeptical

"In bourgeois countries where there appears to be considerable

freedom of the press," said the authoritative writer Karl Radek, "the proletariat enjoys this freedom only to the extent of his means for purchasing newspaper and paying the expenses of printing."

"Rights of the citizens of the Soviet Union," the constitution explains, "are insured by placing at the disposal of the toilers and their organizations printing presses, supplies of paper, public buildings, streets, means of communication and other necessary things."

Observers are asking whether the newspapers are to be free from official control. The Soviet idea of freedom is not understood to include toleration of anti-government newspapers or anti-bolshevik speechmaking and demonstrations. —A.P.

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'Red Democracy'



Communism Still Final Goal, Soviet Says, Despite Reform

By JOHN LLOYD

MOSCOW.—The question most frequently asked in connection with the Soviet Union's turn to "democracy" under a new constitution is "where is Red Russia going?"

Is it becoming conservative? Or is it, through involved procedure which may seem confusing, still plotting a steady course toward communism?

LAST OF A SERIES

One hears from the Stalinists that it is holding true to the principles of Marx and Lenin. Confusion, they say, arises only from lack of knowledge of these principles.

Observers Divided

Opinion among foreign observers is divided. Some accept the Stalinists' explanation. Others believe Stalin has become convinced that socialism or socialistic democracy is the most to be expected from the Russian revolution.

The observers are diplomats, newspapermen and other foreigners who by virtue of long residence and close study of developments in the Soviet Union are qualified to speak.

Those who believe Russia is swinging away from communism point in support of their belief to various recent reforms which have re-established or strengthened old customs and institutions.

Reforms Go Deep

The reforms have affected the

very roots of the social structure. The family, for instance, has come back fully into its own as a recognized basic unit of society. Parents are held increasingly responsible for maintenance and education of their children and "fireside influence" is stressed as one of the most important factors in bringing up the new Bolsheviks. Divorce and easy divorce is gone. Divorces are now taxed and both parties must appear before the decree is granted. Divorced parents must support their children or go to prison.

Like 'Bourgeois' Life

Simplicity of dress is no longer considered essential to the good bolshevik. Silks for the women, white collars and ties for the men have long since won public favour.

Titles have been restored in the army, the office of "housewife" is held in high esteem and there are dozens of other developments tending to make life in the Soviet Union similar to that in "bourgeois" countries.

Now comes the new constitution to introduce direct, secret voting, abolish old class discriminations, set up parliamentary-like chambers and even guarantee protection for a certain amount of private property, including homes.

Aim Still Communism

And so rises the question—is the all-powerful Politbureau (directing board of the communist party) building democracy or a combination of socialism and de-

RUSSIA DROPS TABOOS

More attractive clothes (left) are replacing the simplicity of dress once considered essential for good Bolsheviks, and the family (right) has returned to its own as a recognized basis of society.

mocracy as the final form of government?

The official answer, as stated above, is negative. Communism, spokesmen say, can be reached only by successive stages of development. These will take the country through state socialism and a Soviet kind of democracy. The final aim remains the same—communism.

Two established conditions are held necessary for its advent. There must no longer be a division of the people into classes. Production and distribution must be so organized as to give each citizen the necessities of life on the basis of his need.

Class Held Settled

So thoroughly has it disposed of the class problem, the government says, little more than a single class remains—the workers' class. The government can therefore afford to end discriminations against the remnants of other classes, although it cannot yet drop the big stick in dealing with plotters.

These admittedly still exist, even though in small and scattered numbers. They are to be rounded up and severely punished as has been done in the past.

As regards production and distribution, much hope is placed in the outcome of the Stakhanoff movement. This has already boosted production in a large scale and speeded transportation, but there is still much of the road to be travelled.—A.P.

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